

Urban District of Heckmondwike.

Medical Officer's

ANNUAL

REPORT

FOR

1931

HECKMONDWIKE :
ILLINGWORTH BROS., PRINTERS, MARKET PLACE.



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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.) D.P.H. (Camb).

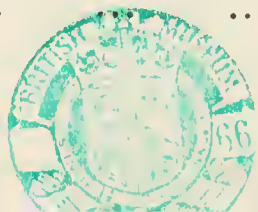
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.

HECKMONDWIKE :
ILLINGWORTH BROS., PRINTERS, MARKET PLACE.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1206 (England) issued by the Ministry of Health, July 14th, 1931. There is a certain amount of repetition annually, which may appear superfluous from the local aspect, but is required for the information of the Ministry.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1931.

Area of Urban District (in acres)	696
Civil Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	9071
Population at Census of 1931 (Males 4,270, Females 4,721)	8991
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931 Census) ...	Not available
Total Private Families at Census, 1931 ...	Do.
Census Population living more than 2 persons per room ...	Not available
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	2560
Average number of persons per house	3.5
Density of Population per acre	13.00
Number of Births (Males 68, Females 70)	Total 138
Illegitimate Births (Males 1, Females 2)	Total 3
Birth Rate per 1,000 living	15.2
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	21.9
Number of Deaths, including residents who died away from Heckmondwike (Males 66, Females 63) Total	129
Net Death Rate per 1,000 living	14.2
Number of Still Births (Males 3, Females 1)	4
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	65
Illegitimate Death Rate per 1,000 Births Registered ...	Nil
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all forms) per 1,000	0.5
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000	0.4
Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000	0.5
Respiratory Diseases Death Rate per 1,000 (Excluding Phthisis)	2.4
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000	1.1
Cases of Infectious Disease notified (excluding Tuberculosis)	36
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	10
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	3
Number of Inquests	5
Rateable Value	£42786
Rate of 1d. in £ produces approx.	£165
Rainfall in inches	35.17
Number of Wet Days	165
Parliamentary Voters	6381
Local Government Voters	4599
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£940
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	575lbs.
Infants born during 1931 fed wholly or partially from Public Funds	9.9%



URBAN DISTRICT OF HECKMONDWIKE.

VITAL STATISTICS'

of whole District during 1931 and previous years.

YEARLY AVERAGE.	ESTIMATED POPULATION. (Registrar General's Figures).	NETT BIRTHS.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
				Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate per 1000
1900-09	9,613	190	19·8	29	152	160	16·6
1910-19	9,064	169	18·5	19	109	148	16·8
1920-29	8,968	162	18·0	13	80	137	15·3
Year 1930	8,830	129	14·6	7	54	115	13·0
1931	9,071	138	15·2	9	65	129	14·2
1931.—England and Wales		...	15·8		66		12·3
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London			16·1		70		12·3
159 Smaller Towns ..		...	15·6		62		11·3
London		...	15·0		67		12·6

Live Births—(Leg. M.67, F.68)

(Illeg. M.1, F.2)

Birth Rate 15·2

Still-Births—M.3, F.1.

Rate per 1,000 total births, 28·1

Deaths. M.66, F.63. Death Rate, 14·2

Percentage of total deaths occurring
in public institutions, 21·7

Number of women

dying in, or in con- } from Sepsis, none
sequence of child } from other causes, 1.
birth }

Deaths from Measles (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), none

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), none

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :—

Legitimate, 66·6. Illegitimate, Nil. All Infants, 65.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HECKMONDWIKE, YEAR 1931.

1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	—
2.	Measles	...	...	...	1
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	1
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	2
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	4
10.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	1
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	—
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	—
13.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	10
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	4
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	14
16.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	28
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	—
18.	Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	7
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	6
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	15
21.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	2
23.	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	1
26.	Other Disease of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	1
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	7
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—
30.	Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	1
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	5
32.	Senility	...	...	...	—
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1
34.	Other Violence	...	...	...	2
35.	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	11
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	—

Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—

Small-pox	...	...	...	...	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—

Social Conditions. Heckmondwike is an industrial town, the inhabitants of which are principally engaged in the textile trade. For many years it has been noted for the quality of its productions, especially woollen yarns, carpets, cloth, etc. Engineering, dyeing, and boot manufacturing are also important trades in the town. Some coal miners live in Heckmondwike, but their work is outside.

Population. The 1931 estimate of population by the Registrar-General, which is 9,071, differs from the 1931 Census population (8,991) in that it purports to represent the resident population of the area, which is not necessarily comparable with the population enumerated in the area at the census. Comparative population figures are shewn in the preceding table.

Births. During the year doctors notified 65 and midwives 117 births, a total of 182. The distinction between notification under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, and registration of births by the Registrar must not be overlooked. Comparative figures respecting births may be studied by referring to the preceding table.

Infantile Death Rate. This figure for the year 1931 works out at 65 per 1,000 births registered. It compares favourably with other parts of the country, as shown in the table of Vital Statistics, but is not as satisfactory as might be reasonably desired. Of the nine infant deaths, seven occurred in Heckmondwike and two outside the town. The latter were Heckmondwike residents, hence these deaths must be included. Four were the result of malformation, debility, or premature birth; two were asphyxiated, and the cause of coroner's inquests; two to bronchitis; and one convulsions, probably the result of wrong feeding. All this points to the necessity of ante-natal clinic and welfare centre attendance.

General Death Rate. This is shown to be 14·2 per 1,000 of the population. It is higher than last year, or the figures for the remainder of the country, but, unfortunately, in comparatively small areas a true picture is not shown when death rates are calculated for such areas. The preceding list of causes of death during 1931 may be referred to and comparisons made with previous years following an examination of the Vital Statistics Table. Of the 129 deaths, 33 occurred outside Heckmondwike amongst persons who were described as Heckmondwike residents, although in some instances they had only been in the town a very short time.

A. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(a) Medical.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*G. H. Pearce, M.D., D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

WOMAN ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (part time).

*Agnes W. Jervis, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

CONSULTING OBSTETRIC SURGEON.

Carlton Oldfield, F.R.C.S.

(b) Others.

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

*Ethel M. Shorter, 3 years' General Training Certificate; Certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A. K. Greenwood.

*50% salary contribution is received from Exchequer Grants in respect of officers marked *.

The Medical Officer is also Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for the adjoining Borough of Batley. The Health Visitor is directly employed by the Council as such, but the West Riding County Council pays the Heckmondwike Council an annual sum for her part time services as School Nurse under the County Council. The Sanitary Inspector is also Meat, Market and Housing Inspector.

B. 1. Nursing in the Home. There have been no changes in the arrangements for (a) general nursing and (b) nursing of infectious diseases during 1931.

2. Midwives.—The West Riding County Council is the local supervising authority.

3. Laboratory Facilities.—Facilities are provided at the County Council laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1931 are Widal 3, Sputum 8, Diphtheria 38, Ringworm 2, Urine 2, Miscellaneous 1, total, 54.

(4) **Legislation in force.** In addition to the Heckmondwike Improvement Act, 1905, the following general adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Regulations relating to the public health are in force in Heckmondwike:—

Acts of Parliament,

	Parts or Sections in force.	Date of adoption.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	Whole Act	1902
Infectious Disease Pre- vention Act, 1890	Whole Act	1908
Notification of Births Act, 1907	Whole Act	1909
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907	Sec. 51	1922

Bye-laws and Regulations.

	Date.
Offensive Trades	1889
Prevention of Nuisances	1889
Common Lodging Houses	1889
New Streets and Buildings	1889
Slaughter-houses	1889
Hackney Carriages	1889
Baths and Wash-houses	1902
Markets and Fairs	1869
Pleasure Grounds	1923
New Streets and Buildings	1926
Heckmondwike Urban (Offensive Trade) Confirmation Order	1929

Bye-laws for the regulation of the trade of a fish fryer and in respect of tents, vans and sheds are needed. Their adoption would be of considerable benefit to the urban district. Certain sections of the Public Health Act, 1925, would also be useful.

5. Hospitals.—A description of the public or voluntary hospital services available for Heckmondwike residents was given on page 9 of the Annual Report for 1930. The situation is the same to-day.

6. Maternity and Nursing Homes.—The Heckmondwike Maternity Home is supported by voluntary contributions, fees paid by patients, and Government grant. It is run by a voluntary body known as the Heckmondwike Nursing Association.

During 1931 the Registrar of Births reported the registration of the births of 86 infants born in the Home. Of these children the parents of 29 resided in Heckmondwike, and 57 did not reside in Heckmondwike. The figures since 1922 are:—

Year.	Heckmondwike		Year.	Heckmondwike	
	Residents.	Others.		Residents.	Others.
1922	23	50	1927	23	67
1923	15	56	1928	21	61
1924	18	54	1929	37	46
1925	35	41	1930	23	64
1926	19	51	1931	29	57

Whilst doing very beneficial work for Heckmondwike residents it should not be overlooked that this Home is much used by and is a great convenience to residents in neighbouring areas where there are no Maternity Homes.

7. Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children (apart from the Poor Law) is not provided.

8. Ambulance Facilities. (a) For infectious cases are provided by the Joint Hospital Board and (b) non-infectious cases and accidents by special arrangement.

9. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

	Address.	Sessions.	Day and Time of Meeting.	Arrangements for Medical Supervision.
Heckmondwike U.D. Council is the Authority for Maternity and Child Welfare.	George Street Sunday School, Heckmondwike.	For Maternity and Child Welfare Weekly.	Thursdays 2 to 4.	M.O.H. attends Weekly for Consultation.
	Public Health Department, Greenside, Heckmondwike	Ante and Post Natal Fortnightly	Wednesday Fortnightly 2 to 4.	Woman Asst. M.O.H. for Consultations.
	Day Nurseries	None		
County Council the Authority.	Public Health Department, Greenside, Heckmondwike	Daily School Clinic	Daily 9 a.m.	County Council through its S.M.O. and the M.O.H. Heckmondwike.
	Tuberculosis Dispensary. Venereal Diseases Centres.	Outside the District		

Orthopædic and Artificial Light Treatment is obtained for Heckmondwike scholars at the hospitals previously mentioned. During 1931 the attendances of Heckmondwike residents at Venereal Disease Clinics were: Dewsbury Infirmary, 33 males and 9 females; Bradford St. Luke's Hospital, 2 males and 3 females, and Leeds Infirmary, 3 males and no females. This is a considerable increase upon last year's figures.

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centre.

Year.	Number of Mothers on Register.	Attendances of Infants.	Average Attendance per Child
1920	99	1859	18
1921	285	2305	8
1922	203	1099	5
1923	135	1044	8
1924	216	1385	6
1925	126	1318	10
1926	136	1837	13
1927	114	1900	16
1928	116	2090	18
1929	135	1818	13
1930	124	2127	17
1931	132	2217	44

Certain ladies assist in the non professional work of the Welfare Centre by dispensing tea and in other ways. Acknowledgment is again made of their useful services.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1918.

Under this Order the Council has distributed dried milk, as follows. The years mentioned end March 31st:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1919 ...	4	15	7	1926 ...	16	5	8
1920 ...	9	11	10	1927 ...	24	4	9
1921 ...	7	3	6	1928 ...	7	7	10
1922 ...	76	16	10	1929 ...	21	3	6
1923 ...	24	6	6	1930 ...	46	6	2
1924 ...	9	10	0	1931 ...	37	11	1
1925 ...	21	0	0	1932 ...	43	17	9
Total cost for fourteen years ...	£350	1	0				
Average cost per annum ...	£25	0	1				

The attendances at the Infant Welfare Centre are individually greater than shown above, but no record is kept of mothers who attend without bringing their infants.

It would be an advantage if the Welfare Centre could be at the Council's Public Health Department. Reference has been previously made to this subject and consideration is again recommended.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Individual patients attending Clinic	42	73	49	69	73	73	49
Patients found normal	7	19	6	39	14	10	15
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	35	54	43	30	59	63	34
Total number of attendances at Clinic	120	141	112	151	174	200	206

Defects Classified.

Respiratory system, excluding Tuberculosis	4	16	7	3	Nil	3	4
Circulatory system, excluding Varicose Veins	9	9	8	5	12	24	4
Digestive system, excluding Defective Teeth and Constipation	4	15	25	22	6	18	15
Urinary system	7	19	9	15	17	37	10
Small or deformed Pelvis	2	3	3	2	3	2	2
Gynæcological defects, including Venereal Disease	6	2	24	19	25	36	15
Varicose Veins	8	17	11	10	6	16	7
Constipation	14	21	19	23	22	6	17
Defective Teeth	15	27	19	25	16	36	23
Anæmia and Debility	Not recorded		5	6	14	4	15
Miscellaneous	2	3	4	5	7	4	4

History of Labours, 1931.

Normal termination	...	...	...	...	43
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	1
Twin pregnancies	...	...	...	...	2
Instrumental delivery	...	...	...	...	4
Still-births—					
(a) Prematurity and footling presentation	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Breech	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Accidental hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	1

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,—The preceding table shows that the work of the ante-natal clinic was well maintained throughout the year in so far as the individual attendances were larger than in preceding years; but the number of prospective mothers was less.

The state of the teeth of the mothers calls for attention. I note that the same point was commented upon by my predecessor. Oral sepsis plays an important part in the incidence of puerperal infections, besides depressing the general health of the mother. The provision of facilities for dental treatment would repay the money spent, and I hope it may be found possible to extend the ante-natal service in this direction.

I should like to take the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the nursing arrangements of the clinic and of the work done by Sister Shorter.

(Signed) AGNES W. JERVIS, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

C. Maternal Mortality. In 1928 the Medical Officer of Health was designated as the person to investigate maternal deaths. The arrangement still continues, including puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. In November, 1929, the Council appointed Mr. Carlton Oldfield, F.R.C.S., as Consulting Obstetric Surgeon under the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Amendment Regulations, 1928. Fortunately for the health of the Urban District it has not, up to the present, been necessary to call upon this gentleman for assistance.

Work of Health Visitor during 1931—

Ante-Natal—First Visits	...	...	...	46	
Re-Visits	...	...	...	60	
				<hr/>	106
Infants under 12 months—					
First Visits	...	...	...	132	
Re-Visits	...	...	...	1554	
				<hr/>	1686
Visits to children between 12 months and 3					
years	...	...	...	1287	
between 3 and 5 years	...	...	...	1044	
				<hr/>	2331

Visits to cases of—

Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	None
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia (notified)	...	...	...	...	12
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	13
Still Births	...	...	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	...	...	249
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	25
Chicken-Pox	...	...	...	...	10
Mumps	...	...	...	...	104
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6
					<hr/> 425
Total Visits as Health Visitor					<hr/> 4548 <hr/>

To the above must be added Sister Shorter's work as School Nurse during 1931:—

Visits to homes 688, children seen 858, visits to schools 45, children examined in school 1,159. Where necessary appropriate advice verbally or by printed pamphlet was given to parents or teachers.

School Clinic.

Individual Scholars attended	...	...	...	1110
Total attendances	...	...	...	3199

The School Nurse reports on her work to the West Riding County Council, which is the Authority for School Medical Inspection in Heckmondwike. The Medical Officer of Health is available for consultation once weekly at the School Clinic. During the year he examined 1,020 scholars and advised. Of these, 37 were recommended for treatment at various hospitals. Five cases were referred to the N.S.P.C.C., whose local Inspector (Mr. Lawlor) has rendered the same valuable assistance as in previous years. His visits usually have the desired effect when other efforts have failed, and it is a pleasure to testify to his worth once again.

“ Boots for the Bairns ” Fund. Founded several years ago and administered under the authority of the Council through voluntary subscriptions, this charity has provided Heckmondwike children during 1931 with 152 pairs of boots, 23 pairs of clogs, and 194 pairs of stockings.

The late Mrs. Thomas Wharton left a sum of £1,000 to the Council to be invested and the interest used to cover the expense of sending convalescent children to the seaside for a period of three weeks. During the year eight were sent to St. Anne's and Southport.

Children Act, 1908. The arrangements for discharging the functions of the Local Authority under Part I of this Act will be discharged by the Urban District Council. At the present time there is no known case in the town which comes under the provisions of the Act.

Sister Shorter, the Council's Health Visitor, has for one more year worked hard in the interests of the health of the women and children of Heckmondwike and thereby added further benefits to the community in general, but particularly to those above mentioned. Her services are highly appreciated by those competent to express an opinion upon the subject of Maternity and Child Welfare.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The remarks on page 15 of the Annual Report for 1930 are applicable. The Council's Surveyor (Mr. F. W. Littlewood, M.Inst. M. and Cy.E.) informs me as follows:—

No extensions have been made to the water mains.

Rivers and Streams. The Spen Beck runs through Heckmondwike, and is polluted by dye waters and some trade effluent. The authority for supervision is the West Riding Rivers Board.

Drainage and Sewerage. The Surveyor, Mr. Littlewood, contributes the following information:—

During the year, representatives from the Spenborough, Mirfield and Heckmondwike Urban District Councils met in Conference to consider the letter dated the 21st January, 1931, from the Minister of Health, with reference to the question of amalgamating the Sewage Works of the respective districts. They decided that the Engineers of the respective Authorities should submit a Report on the question, when the Conference would again arrange a Meeting to consider the matter.

No new sewers have been constructed during the year 1931.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1931.

Number of Privies with Open Middens	...	...	...	6
Number of Pail or Tub Closets	...	...	...	2
Number of Privies with Covered Middens	...	...	...	24
				<hr/> 32
Number of Water Closets	...	...	...	2461
Number of Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	152
				<hr/> 2613
Number of Privies reconstructed during 1931—				
(a) As W.C.'s	...	...	...	10
(b) Others	...	...	...	None
Number of Water Closets constructed for New Houses during 1931	...	...	...	6
Number of additional W.C.'s provided for old property during 1931	...	...	...	7
Number of additional W.C.'s provided for Factories, Workshops, Institutions, etc.	...	...	...	5
Number of Trough W.C.'s converted to modern type during 1931	...	...	...	7
Number of Metal Bins provided for new houses	...	...	...	6
Additional Metal Bins provided for old property	...	...	...	1
Defective Metal Bins renewed	...	...	...	33
2 Brick Receptacles have been replaced by 9 Metal Bins				
5 Middens have been replaced by 23 Metal Bins.				
Total Metal Bins	...	...	...	1867
Brick Receptacles	...	...	...	179
Middens	...	...	...	26

SCAVENGING.

The Surveyor (Mr. Littlewood) has contributed the following:—

1,689 loads of domestic refuse were tipped and 1,768 loads of domestic refuse were burned in the Destructor, making a total of 3,457 loads.

436 loads of trade refuse were also burned in the Destructor.

1,158 loads of clinker were taken to tip.

From the above figures, it will be seen that about half the domestic refuse was taken to Cawley Tip, consequently, less repairs have been necessary to the furnaces at the Destructor. Every care was taken to control the tipping and it was carried out without nuisance to the adjoining property.

The dust bins are emptied weekly and the ashpits approximately monthly. 2 Morris 30 cwt. wagons are employed full time in the Scavenging Department.

The following figures respecting Scavenging are of interest:

Year.	Loads to Destructor.	Loads to Tips.	Total annual cost.			Total metal bins.	Fixed brick receptacles.	Middens.
			£	s.	d.			
1916	3901	549	968	0	0	705	—	—
1917	2503	646	1017	0	0	703	—	—
1918	2637	894	1228	0	0	705	—	—
1919	3105	987	1851	0	0	711	—	—
1920	3444	805	2071	0	0	730	332	—
1921	2728	1216	2000	0	0	776	323	—
1922	1645	2277	2000	0	0	1033	267	91
1923	2209	1310	2221	14	0	1164	258	67
1924	3356	282	2220	0	0	1359	224	55
1925	3253	160	2205	6	10	1472	215	47
1926	3392	36	2212	4	7	1661	194	42
1927	3399	139	2200	0	0	1719	192	38
1928	3360	252	2727	0	0	1745	189	36
1929	3634	86	2643	0	0	1788	185	32
1930	3206	437	2947	0	0	1795	181	31
1931	2204	1689	2602	11	2	1867	179	26

WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTOR UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1926.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT, YEAR 1931.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS.

Re Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1014
„ Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	123
„ Bakehouses and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	196
„ Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	47
„ Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	72
„ Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	360
Total					...	1847.

NATURE OF INSPECTIONS.

Choked W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	19
Defective and Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	28
Defective Privies and Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	2
Manure Accumulations	...	...	...	...	48
Defective Dry Ashes Places	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Metal Bins	...	...	...	...	19
Defective W.C. Apparatus, etc.	...	...	...	...	10
Defective Vent Shafts	...	...	...	...	5
Defective Trough W.C.'s and Slop W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	2
Rubbish Accumulation	...	...	...	...	1
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 138 <hr/>

SERVICE OF NOTICES.

Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	138
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	136
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	1
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	1
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1930					14
Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1931					10
Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1931	...	...	...	...	138
Total No. of Nuisances abated during 1931	...	...	...	...	142
Legal proceedings respecting Nuisances	...	...	...	...	None

Smoke Abatement. One chimney, just over the boundary, has been a great offender in recent years. The Sanitary Inspector served an informal notice on the owner and as the result of frequent pressure a noticeable improvement has taken place, although the nuisance is not entirely abolished. There is room for improvement in the case of several chimneys, which frequently belch forth clouds of dense black smoke. The cause of smoke abatement deserves full support. Persons have as much right to breathe pure air as to drink pure water. It is interesting to read John Evelyn, who talks of "presumptuous smoake" rising over Whitehall and endangering the health of Charles II. The statement has been made that in view of the general depression in trade people should be glad to see smoke coming from factory chimneys. The answer is that the owner would save a considerable amount of money if he burnt his smoke in the fire instead of sending it up the chimney. The domestic fireplace cannot escape blame, but this does not apply to Heckmondwike to the extent seen in many similar towns, as,

owing to the facilities offered by the Council, an increasing number of householders are installing electric cookers. There are also many users of gas.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses. There is one, which provides accommodation for 75 persons.

The building is generally well kept and the bye-laws observed. There are three buildings where rooms are let off to families. These are not desirable in the general sense and, as previously recommended, it is necessary the Council should adopt bye-laws applicable to houses let in lodgings, which would assist in regulating the conduct of them.

Slaughter-houses.

Total number of Slaughter-houses	...	...	5
Registered	...	...	4
Licensed	...	...	1

The only slaughter-house which complies with modern ideas of such premises is that owned by the Co-operative Society. It would be an advantage if all the others could be abolished and either a public abattoir erected or arrangements made by which the modern slaughter-house above-mentioned could serve the requirements of the town.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Tripe Boiling	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fat Melting	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bone Boiling	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gut Scraping	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fellmongering	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tanner and Leather Dresser	...	...	...	...	...	1

The various premises are kept in accordance with the bye-laws so far as is possible.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Total number of Fried Fish Shops on Register ... 19

The Ministry of Health confirmed the Order declaring the trade of a Fish Frier within the District an Offensive Trade on February 1st, 1929. The adoption of bye-laws is still outstanding. It would appear that their adoption is very desirable and the Council has this matter under consideration, together with the modernisings of all the bye-laws.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

No. of Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	6
Milch Cows (Approximate No.)	...	...	...	...	...	56
No. of Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Cowkeepers who are also Milk Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Milk Purveyors only	...	...	...	...	...	28
No. of Dairies on Register	...	...	...	...	...	8
The remarks made last year still apply, viz:—						

The condition of the cowsheds is improving, but there is room for considerable progress before they can be said to comply with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Number of Premises Registered for the Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Premises Registered for Sale of Ice Cream only	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of Persons Registered for the Sale of Ice Cream by Barrow	...	...	...	...	...	9

BAKEHOUSES AND RESTAURANTS.

Number of Bakehouses on Register	...	...	...	...	...	13
Number of Restaurants on Register	...	...	...	...	...	3

These have been kept under observation, and attention given to nuisances or defects as and when such matters have arisen.

Miscellaneous. Regulations respecting underground sleeping rooms do not appear at present to be necessary, there being no premises known to the department which would be likely to come within their scope.

Arrangements for Disposal of the Dead are at present adequate, the Heckmondwike Cemetery being the property of the Council. It was established about 1860 and serves not only the town, but adjacent areas to a considerable degree. In any necessary extensions which may arise in the future, it is desirable facilities for cremation should receive consideration. There is a second burial ground, which is attached to the Upper Independent Chapel. The Parish Churchyard is seldom used, it being practically closed. Last year there were 5,195 cremations or 1 per cent. of the actual deaths in Great Britain, an increase of 662 on the previous year.

Schools. The West Riding County Council is the Education Authority in Heckmondwike and it is assumed periodical reports are made by its Medical Inspectors when they visit the schools for medical inspections. The Heckmondwike Medical Officer of Health visits the schools when necessary and reports to the Heckmondwike Council.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. No samples were taken. The Sanitary Inspector reports there is only one manufacturer of flocks in Heckmondwike, and his premises are partially over the boundary.

Health Education. A Health Week has been held annually in Heckmondwike since 1924, except 1925. The journal, "Better Health," is distributed free of charge each month, and continues to be eagerly looked forward to by residents. In November, 1931, the usual Health Week was very successful. It was conducted by Mr. T. Bowen Partington, as in several preceding years, supported by the Chairman and Members of the Council. Approximately 3,500 persons attended the meetings.

In May, 1931, the Royal Sanitary Institute held a Sessional Meeting at Heckmondwike in conjunction with the neighbouring Borough of Batley.

The delegates were much impressed by what they saw of the public services and administration in the town and it was frequently stated that Heckmondwike would shew to advantage if compared with many of the large towns in this country.

As Medical Officer of Health it was a source of much satisfaction to me to be able to introduce men of great experience in public affairs to the Heckmondwike Councillors and Officials and to hear their congratulatory remarks upon what they saw and to know they were not uttering empty platitudes.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

In order that the particulars asked for may be accurately given, the several heads have been read as a whole before the form was filled up, and care has been taken to avoid duplication; for example, a defective house remedied twice during the year has been counted once only.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	58
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	149
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	41
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	73
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	46

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	43
--	--	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	12
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	None
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	None

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	None
-----	---	------

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	None

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made *None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders *None

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made *None

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit *None

E. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	None

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close None

F. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit None

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made None

(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders None

* On September 28th, 1931, houses numbered 44, 46, 48, 50, 52 and 54, Brighton Street were represented by the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation in the terms of Sec. 19 of the Housing Act, 1930. The owners gave an undertaking in writing to carry out such works as would comply with the specifications served upon them by the Housing Inspector. These works were not completed by the 31st December, 1931. On the same date houses numbered 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14, Back Lane were represented by the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation in the terms of Sec. 19 of the Housing Act, 1930. The owners appeared before the committee in December, when, in response to their request, they were allowed one month in which to formulate and present their proposals.

The remarks on pages 24 and 25 of the Annual Report for 1930 apply at the present. On pages 26 and 27 of that Report a complete list appears of Closing Orders, etc., made under the Housing Acts up to December 31st, 1930.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1931, for the Urban District
of Heckmondwike, on the Administration of the Factory
and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces,
including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector:—**

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	42	2	Nil
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries)	109	Nil	Nil
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' premises)	73	Nil	Nil
Total	224	2	Nil

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			No. of offences in respect to which Pro- secutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances:—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommoda- tion:—				
{ Insufficient.				
{ Unsuitable or				
{ Defective.	1	1	—	—
{ Not separate				
{ for sexes.	1	1	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of under- ground Bakehouses (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences:—				
[Excluding offences relating to outworkers and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921] ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	2	Nil.	Nil.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

Nature of work. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**(a) Milk Supply.**

There are three producers of milk within the Urban District, but no producers of graded milks.

The following licences to sell graded milk in the Urban District were granted during the year:—

Certified Milk.—Edward Haley, Bertha Gray, Arthur Garnett.

Grade A Milk.—Frank Smith.

The reports of the Council's Veterinary Surgeon are as follows:—

Bank Foot House,
Batley,

6th March, 1931.

Dr. G. H. Pearce.

Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting a Report of my (to-day's) inspection of the milk cows in your area.

Lund (5).—The general condition of these cows quite satisfactory. A new purchase (Irish), rather low in flesh, evidence of a rough journey, will improve. I am satisfied with cows' udders.

Hodgson (16).—The general condition satisfactory; the cow mentioned in December, 1930, reported as low in flesh, greatly improved. Udders satisfactory, if we except a black cow with an indurated quarter of udder, probably due to mastitis.

Cave (31).—The general condition satisfactory, in fact, the cows looking much better than on my visit in December last. Here we have two cows with deaf quarters of udder (no secretion). A red and roan cow indurated quarter of udder, probably due to mastitis. The other cows' udders are satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

June 29th, 1931.

Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of this month's inspection of the milk cows in your area. The general condition of the cows is quite satisfactory and, from a T.B. point of view, I am satisfied with the udders.

Hodgson.—Black cow named in last report is disposed of. Cow named as looking low in flesh is now looking very well.

Cave.—A case of non-T.B. mastitis; milk from this quarter not used for food.

Lund.—The Irish cow mentioned in last report is sold.

Yours faithfully,

G. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

28th September, 1931.

Dear Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting my report of the inspection during this month of the milk cows in your area.

Cave.—General condition satisfactory if one excepts a roan cow, rather low in flesh, exhibits no clinical sign of disease. From a T.B. point of view one is satisfied with the cows' udders. One cow in No. 2 mistal thickening base of teat not subsided since calving. Cow in No. 1 mistal named in previous report was some weeks ago scheduled under the T.B. Order. White cow in No. 3 mistal enlarged hind quarter not T.B.

Lund.—General condition and udders satisfactory.

Hodgson.—General condition and udders satisfactory. I met with no scheduled diseases nor did I think it necessary to take a sample of milk. As one expects at this time of the year the cows generally are a little broken in their coats.

Yours faithfully,

G. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

26th December, 1931.

Sir,

I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection this month of the milk cows in your area:—

Lund.—General condition of the cows and the cows' udders satisfactory.

Hodgson.—General condition of the cows and the cows' udders satisfactory.

Cave.—General condition of the cows satisfactory, also the udders normal, if one excepts a white cow and a blue cow having uneven hind quarters of udder, but do not show definite clinical signs of T.B. I understand during the last six months a cow on this farm was scheduled under the 1925 Order. I am not aware of the post-mortem result.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

The Reports of the Chief Veterinary Officer, West Riding County Council, are as follows:—

County Hall,
Wakefield,
18th April, 1931.

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your district.

Mr. McKellar visited three farms, and examined 56 cows. The health of the cows was found to be good, and their cleanliness satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

D. S. RABAGLIATI,

Chief Veterinary Officer.

8th September, 1931.

Dear Sir,

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the three registered farms in your district, and examined 48 cows.

One cow was detected with an indurated udder, and milk from the affected quarter was found to contain tubercle bacilli on microscopic examination. This cow was slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order as suffering from tuberculosis of the udder.

With the above exception, no case of scheduled disease was met with, and the condition of cleanliness, both of the cattle and premises, was found to be satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

D. S. RABAGLIATI,

Chief Veterinary Officer.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector is Meat and Markets Inspector. He reports monthly to the Sanitary Committee upon his work as Meat Inspector. The Medical Officer of Health has, on various occasions during the year, examined carcasses and organs in slaughter-houses when doubt arose as to whether there was disease or otherwise.

Total No. of Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	5
Registered	...	...	...	4
Licensed	...	...	...	1
Total No. of Inspections	...	...	...	360
No. of Regular Notices of Slaughter received	...	...	...	54
No. of Occasional Notices of Slaughter received	...	...	...	558

	No. of Animals Slaughtered.	No. of Carcases Inspected.
Cattle	795	786
Sheep	2369	2267
Swine	1215	1181
Other	30	30
	<hr/> 4409 <hr/>	<hr/> 4264 <hr/>

**MEAT INSPECTION—SUMMARY OF UNSOUND MEAT
SURRENDERED.**

	lbs.
Whole Carcases and Offal of 2 Beasts Tuberculosis	1201
Forequarters and Lungs of 2 Beasts ... Do.	368
Heads and Tongues of 2 Beasts ... Do.	58½
Whole Carcase and Offal of 1 Pig ... Do.	431
Whole Carcases and Offal of 2 Pigs, and part Carcases and Offal of 2 Pigs	318
27 Beasts' Lungs ... Do.	320
20 „ Livers ... Parasitic	298½
3 „ Spleens, mesenteric fat, etc. ... Tuberculosis	88
24 Pigs' Heads and Offal ... Do.	660
6 „ Livers ... Cirrhosis	41
12 „ Offal ... Tuberculosis	55½
44 Sheep Livers ... Parasitic	66
	<hr/> 3905½ <hr/>

120 Crabs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
2 Tins Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$
4 Bags Mussels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	392
2 Boxes Pears	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
1 Box Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
1 Turkey	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
								<hr/>
								4476
								<hr/>

(c) **Adulteration, etc.** The Council is not a Food and Drugs Authority, this work being performed in Heckmondwike by the West Riding County Council.

(d) **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.** Up to the present, no laboratory work of this nature has been undertaken directly on behalf of the Council, the County Council, as previously explained, acting in the Heckmondwike area.

(e) **Nutrition.** The remarks on pages 35 and 36 of the Annual Report for the previous year may be taken to apply equally to 1931. It is my opinion that much of the disease in this country is due to defects in the diet of the people, and it is interesting to record that attention has now been turned to this subject in official and scientific circles. Nothing but good can be the result, provided that any advice which may be given is followed. Unfortunately, too many persons still cling to the bottle of medicine as a fetish.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1931.

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.				NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED 1931.											Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
				At Ages—Years.												
				At all Ages.												
NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.																

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL DEATHS FROM NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1929.

	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Tuberculosis (Lungs)								1				
Scarlet Fever					1	1					1	
Diphtheria						1						
Cerebro Spinal Fever							1					

There were 3 deaths from Scarlet Fever but only 2 of these were notified. The Registrar General's figures shew 4 deaths from Tuberculosis of Lungs and 1 from other forms of Tuberculosis, together with 15 deaths from Pneumonia. As the regulations respecting notification of Tuberculosis and Pneumonia are largely ignored it is not possible to accurately complete the table of analysis of Deaths above.

Smallpox. No cases were discovered during the year, but several contacts of smallpox patients in other areas were kept under observation.

Measles was epidemic during the early part of the year. There were several instances of complications, but generally speaking nothing worthy of special mention. So far as could be ascertained every house where measles occurred was visited and advice given verbally and by printed pamphlet.

Pneumonia was notified on twelve occasions. The regulations are not generally observed, as may be seen from the fact that 15 deaths were certified as due to this disease, and, of course, there must have been other cases which were non-fatal.

Diphtheria. There were six cases, and 1 death. The usual precautions as to exclusion from school and a strict watch over contacts were observed.

Diphtheria antitoxin is available for practitioners upon request, free of charge. During the year 2,000 units were supplied to 1 doctor at a cost of 17/6. During recent years the wholesale immunisation of school children against this disease has been practised in some towns in this country and abroad with great success. Most children who have undergone this treatment are protected for many years. If the inhabitants could be persuaded to allow their children to be immunised there is no reason why diphtheria should not be banished from the town. Unfortunately, this could not be done without much difficulty, there being a strong prejudice against "vaccination" and "inoculation."

Erysipelas was not the cause of any death. Four cases were notified and all recovered.

Scarlet Fever was less in evidence. 13 cases were notified. There were two deaths.

Enteric Fever was never notified, this disease having been absent from Heckmondwike since April, 1928.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia were not notified, but there were several cases of the latter, in respect of which practitioners do not always notify as is required by the regulations.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was epidemic in some neighbouring areas during most of the year. One case was notified in Heckmondwike. The patient was a boy of eleven. He was removed to hospital within two hours of notification, but died in less than thirty-six hours.

Influenza was not prevalent. There were cases of common colds termed influenza, but the true disease was absent.

The Medical Officer of Health not being the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital—which is in charge of a general practitioner resident outside Heckmondwike—is not able to give the information required on page 10 of the Ministry's Circular 1206 (England) respecting the Schick and Dick tests. Public opinion would probably be opposed to their use locally at present, but it is believed the difficulty might be overcome should occasion arise.

Pathological and Bacteriological facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield. Particulars are given in a previous section of this report.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases become known to the Medical Officer of Health principally through the agency of Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officer. Such cases are visited at home by the School Nurse, whose services have been previously referred to. The Medical Officer of Health is not School Medical Officer.

Contacts are searched for in school or at home when necessary. Isolation is possible at the Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospital.

Anthrax and Rabies locally contracted was not notified during the year.

Epidemic Jaundice, Undulant Fever, or Psittacosis were unknown and **Rheumatic Fever** called for no special comment.

Cancer Death Rate. The following table gives figures during the last 22 years:—

Year	No. of deaths	Rate per 1000 of population	Year	No. of deaths	Rate per 1000 of population	Year	No. of deaths	Rate per 1000 of population
1910	6	0·6	1917	13	unreliable	1924	15	1·6
1911	15	1·6	1918	14	unreliable	1925	16	1·8
1912	12	1·3	1919	11	1·2	1926	7	0·7
1913	12	1·3	1920	15	1·6	1927	24	2·7
1914	12	1·3	1921	14	1·5	1928	18	2·0
1915	12	1·3	1922	10	1·0	1929	15	1·5
1916	13	unreliable	1923	8	0·8	1930	15	1·6
						1931	10	1·1

Cancer research is continued locally at the Leeds University in conjunction with the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

The death rate per 1,000 from Cancer for England and Wales for 1930 was 1·4. The 1931 figures are not yet available.

Compulsory cleansing of **Verminous Persons** was not called for on the part of the Council, but, where necessary, scholars in the elementary schools were excluded, their mothers instructed how to cleanse them, and where they neglected to act, the local inspector of the N.S.P.C.C. (Mr. Lawlor) was informed, with the result that the children were quickly cleansed by their parents. Such scholars are subject to periodical inspection by the School Nurse (Sister Shorter). Thanks are once again expressed to Inspector Lawlor for his services. Where others fail he quickly obtains the desired result.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. These rodents were not more in evidence than usual. Advice is available for their destruction on application to the Sanitary Inspector (Mr. A. K. Greenwood).

Disinfection is done by the Council's disinfecting staff in the homes, and at the Batley Disinfecting Station, where a modern steam apparatus is installed. Where the latter process is necessary payment is made by the Heckmondwike Council.

Prevention of Blindness. No action has been taken under Section 66, Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Year.	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
1931	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Total 1914 to 1931	52	49	3	51	1	None	2

Three cases were discovered by the Health Visitor. They had not been notified. All recovered without permanent injury to sight.

TUBERCULOSIS IN HECKMONDWIKE, 1931.

Age periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
20	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	4	1	2	3	—	—	—

The Registrar General's Returns shew five deaths from Tuberculosis allotted to Heckmondwike during 1931 the two extra being one from tuberculosis of lungs and one from other forms of tuberculosis. It has been impossible to trace the two extra deaths but the figures being official must be accepted.

HOUSING CONDITIONS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Notifica- tions		Type of House			Occupants									Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Rooms					Bedrooms				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients			
																Rooms					Bedrooms							
	M.	F	B. to B.	Single	Through	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 and over	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	0	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room	Shared Room	Separate Bed	Shared Bed
1931	6	4	9	0	1	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	5	1	4	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	10	5	5
Totals 1921 to 1931	56	43	56	3	40	61	42	31	17	17	7	7	8	0	10	34	20	18	5	12	24	13	8	6	18	81	32	67

The following Table shows the relationship between date of notification and date of death of all persons in Heckmondwike who were certified to have died from Tuberculosis between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1931. It is a guide to the extent to which the requirements as to notification of Tuberculosis are observed by medical practitioners.

Death before notification	21	Death 6 months after ...	2
Death 1 month or under		Death 7 months after ...	2
after notification ...	13	Death 8 months after ...	1
Death 2 months after ...	5	Death 9 months after ...	1
Death 3 months after ...	1	Death 10 months after ...	2
Death 4 months after ...	7	Death 11 months after ...	Nil
Death 5 months after ...	3	Death 12 months and over	21

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths during 1931 was nil, but the Registrar-General's figures shew 5 deaths. It is impossible to trace two of these.

The Regulations respecting notification of Tuberculosis are not strictly observed by practitioners, as the table shows. The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of the disease.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken or called for under these Regulations during 1929.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

This section refers to the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The West Riding County Council is the Authority responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation for persons suffering from Tuberculosis. There are cases where such is very desirable, though not provided, partly because there are not sufficient beds available and partly because tubercular patients often refuse hospital treatment.

All the adoptive portions of this Act would be useful if in force in Heckmondwike, and the recommendation that such be considered is again made.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the members of the Council and its officers for their courtesy and assistance during the year.

It is stimulating to be associated as Medical Officer of Health with those who are out to do their utmost for the benefit of the residents of Heckmondwike, either as Councillors or Officials. It has been my good fortune during the whole of my service in the town to feel that I could always rely upon my recommendations receiving careful consideration and whenever possible they have invariably been acted upon.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1932.



